



South Park Township Public Library Annual Report

Circulation Statistics 2008

- Total in-house circulation (items Owned and borrowed from county): **108,287**
Percentage of Increase from 2007: 7% increase
Percentage of Increase from 2003: 119% increase

- Total item circulation (in-house + Loaned to county) **147,856**
Percentage of Increase from 2007: 8% increase
Percentage of Increase from 2003: 187% increase

- Total Items in collection: **49,403**

- Turnover Rate of Items Per Collection Size: **3.0**

- Per Capita Circulation: **8.0**



- Total Adult/Young Adult Print Circulation: **47,885**
 Percentage of Increase from 2007: 14% increase
 Percentage of Increase from 2003: 104% increase
 Turnover Rate of Collection: 2.0



- Total Juvenile Print Circulation: **28,766**
 Percentage of Increase from 2007: 3.8% increase
 Percentage of Increase from 2003: 27% increase
 Turnover Rate of Collection: 2.0



- Total Adult A/V Circulation: **23,485**
 Percentage of Increase from 2007: 6% increase
 Percentage of Increase from 2003: 496% increase
 Turnover Rate of Collection: 3.0
- Total Juvenile A/V Circulation: **7,151**
 Percentage of Increase from 2007: -17% decrease
 Percentage of Increase from 2003: 28% increase
 Turnover Rate of Collection: 6.0

What are patrons are saying about us.....

I am so proud of my community library!

I love the kids programs!!

South Park Library has the best programs of any nearby library.

I love this library! You are all fantastic! I don't think you can do more to serve than you do already. Thank you!

Summer programs, reading and crafts are great!

My girls love storytime with Miss Tami, especially the singing and crafts.

I was already an avid reader, but the book club has broadened my horizons, and I have read, and enjoyed many books I would never have looked at before. Also, I do so enjoy the fellowship and intelligent conversations from the varied backgrounds of the people that belong. Thank you, South Park Library, and Donna.

We enjoy the library. The people are friendly and the environment is cozy.

The CD Burning Class was informative and I definitely recommend others take it!

Chris is a really patient teacher—I feel comfortable in his classes as a non-computer user that's important to me.

Collection Statistics 2008

- Total new items added to Collection in 2008: **12,000**
- Total items withdrawn from Collection in 2008: **4,568**
- Total Adult and Young Adult Print Material in Collection: **24,909**
- Total Juvenile Print Material In Collection: **16,247**
- Total Adult A/V in Collection: **7,043**
- Total Juvenile A/V in Collection: **1,109**

Service Statistics 2007

- Total Library Attendance: **66,653**

Percentage of Increase from 2007 increase: 2%

Percentage of Increase from 2003 increase: 40%

- Total Per Capita Library Attendance: **5.0**
- Total Library Programs for Children & Families **244**

Breakdown of Children Programs:

| | |
|-----------|----|
| Infant: | 27 |
| Toddler: | 25 |
| Juvenile: | 89 |
| Outreach: | 54 |
| Family: | 49 |

- Total Library Juvenile & Family Program Attendance **4,566**

Percentage of Increase from 2007: decrease -2%

Percentage of Increase from 2003: increase 130%

| | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Total Juvenile Outreach Audience: 2494 Percentage of Increase from 2007: 13% increase Percentage of Increase from 2003: N/A (program not existent) | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Total Library Programs for Adults: 112 Breakdown of Adult Programs: Adult Evening: 98 Senior Afternoon: 14 | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Total Adult Attendance 1,222 Percentage of Increase from 2007: 0% increase/decrease Percentage of Increase from 2003: N/A (program not existent) | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Friend's Fitness: 180 | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Total Friend's Fitness Attendance: 1,013 | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Computer Class Programs: 32 Note: Computer Classes only Were offered from June-Dec. 2008 Percentage statistics are not valid. | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Computer Class Attendance: 220 | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Total In-House Library Program Attendance: 6,008 | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Percentage of Population Attending In-House Library Programs: 42% | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Total Attendance of all Library sponsored activities: 15,523 | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Percentage of Population Participating in all Library Sponsored events: 108% | |

Director's Report

In 2008 the library continued its commitment to developing an exceptional circulating collection. The commitment to the collection includes an aggressive purchasing policy as well as significant dedication to collection maintenance to ensure an attractive environment and current available materials.

In 2008 the library is still growing in new directions since its 2006 renovation. We are evaluating our services more carefully to understand our community's needs. We have begun to right-size our programs to be more cost-efficient, but at the same time more focused on patron demand.

In 2008 through collaboration with other Allegheny County libraries we have been able to provide access to downloadable DVDs to our public, as well as free online live tutoring service for students in grades K-12.

In 2008 the library initiated a collaborative effort with the South Park Township School District to provide improved access to Accelerated Reader material and support for the program in general.

We look forward to the challenges of better serving our community in 2009. In the last five years our library has experienced significant growth in community patronage and we are committed to a future of continued growth in both our patronage and community value.

We are succeeding as a library due to all of our funders, the Township of South Park, the Friends of South Park Library, The Regional Asset District, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and all our community donations.

Sharon Bruni, Director

2008 Program Highlights:

- Began Evening Family Storytimes
- American Girl Club
- Webkinz Club
- A Dickens Tea
- Annual Holiday Gala attracts 200 guests!
- Teen Twilight Party
- Began Armchair Travel Series
- Biggest Loser collaborative program with Whitehall Library
- Three Jacks and a Jill Barbershop Quartet
- Queen of Hearts Tea Party

New at the Library:

- My Library Dv downloadable DVDs
- Tutor.Com live online homework help
- Electronic Collection added to Web Site
- Enhanced Fine Art Book Collection made possible by the Paul Weinheimer Memorial Fund
- Job & Career Resource Center made possible by Rep. David Levdansky DCED funding

Children's Librarian's Report 2008

The Children's Department continues to offer year-round programming for the entire family at no cost.

Evening family storytimes as well as daytime storytimes for kindergartners, preschoolers, toddlers, and infants continue to be very popular and well attended.

Elementary students are drawn to the Magic Tree House Book Club which meets monthly and explores various regions of the world, time periods in history, and historic events. Meetings include book discussions, games, crafts, and snacks related to the theme.

Elementary school girls are attracted to the American Girl Book Club which focuses the life of a typical girl during a certain period in American history. World War II, the Depression Era, and Colonial America were explored. Discussions, games which were played during that time period, crafts, and snacks are part of a great evening for the girls – who often bring their dolls with them.

A Webkinz program has been added monthly which has been immensely popular. Children bring a Webkinz animal, make crafts, and play games as well as following the library's mascot – Cheesedoodle on the Webkinz website.

Monthly special events were held and well received. These included a visit from Wild Birds Unlimited, a Chinese New Year Celebration, a tea party with the Queen of Hearts, spooky stories with Spiderella, and an annual visit from Mrs. Claus. The highlight event was a visit from the Pittsburgh Zoo with a live African Penguin.

The library participated in the One Book – Every Young Child Program and held a Phipps Conservatory visit in conjunction with the chosen book -- Up, Down, and Around which focused on gardening. The children also celebrated Mr. Roger's Birthday by visiting the residents in our neighborhood at the Mt. Vernon Assisted Living Residence.

Outreach also continued to the local day care centers in South Park. Kindercare also visits the library twice a month for a special storytime.

The Summer Reading Program is always the highlight of the year. 247 children participated in the Catch the Reading Bug program. 91 children participated in the Read-To-Me Program, and 61 teens joined the Metamorphosis program just for them. For the first time this year, the program was also offered on-line. Science Sparks kept the children busy on Mondays, featured entertainers like Dave Crawley and Magician Doc Dixon visited on Tuesdays, children found the hidden Book Bug on Wednesdays, and crafts were offered on Thursdays throughout the summer. Sign language classes for babies and toddlers were also offered. A special puppet show was presented at the end of the summer and the Science Center visited for the big Summer Reading Wrap-up Party.

Teens are also a vital part of the programming for the department. Throughout the year a Mother-Daughter Book Club is held monthly and well-received. Teen programming in the summer included a visit from the Animal Rescue League which focused on careers with animals, a geo-caching treasure hunt with GPS equipment, a murder mystery night, a CSI night, a talk about urban legends which included Green Man Tunnel, a special spa night for the girls, and a Twilight Party in conjunction with the very popular teen book series by Stephenie Meyers. Red Cross Babysitting Classes were also offered and extremely popular.

Adult Services Coordinator Report 2008

2008 Program Highlights

Approximately 1500 people attended 82 adult programs in 2008.

We started the "Cultural Afternoon Programs" which ran from January thru October. Approximately 225 attended 9 programs.

Best-selling author Devra Davis spoke in March. South Park Library was the first to have her speak (and that includes Larry King and the Drue Heinz lecture series at the Carnegie in Oakland).

Our Book Club has been going strong since April 2006. There are 9 to 19 members. There is a core group of 10 who come to almost every monthly meeting.

Our Knitting Group going strong since March of 2006. 8-15 members come twice a month from Sept. thru May.

Our Beading group is very popular with 5-15 attending monthly (the limit is set by the instructor).

We ran a contest with Whitehall Library called the "Biggest Loser". Fifty-eight people signed up to walk (measuring steps with a pedometer and lose weight). Forty-five people from South Park and Whitehall attended the kick-off party. Healthy food and drinks were served and a nutritionist spoke about healthy eating. Bi-monthly programs were scheduled and included a group walk in the park with Whitehall, a personal trainer came in to talk about exercise, a counselor came in to discuss emotional overeating, and Jill Lavella from Prescription Center Plus came in to talk about vitamins & minerals. The wrap up party was held at Whitehall Library where we awarded prizes. Prizes were awarded to those who lost the most weight and walked most steps. South Park Library won the grand total of most weight lost and won the trophy.

Twenty-nine adults signed up for the Summer Reading Program. Over 200 books were read. Weekly prizes were donated by local businesses. The grand prize "readers basket" awarded to patron who read the most books.

200 attended the Christmas party with Mrs. Claus, crafts, and snacks.